

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ASUNCI 03789 312102Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 IO-13 /057 W
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FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3895

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASUNCION 3789

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2
TAGS: SHUM, PA
SUBJECT: MURDER OF RELEASED POLITICAL PRISONER DOROTEO GRANDEL

REF: ASUNCION 3210

SUMMARY: EX-POLITICAL PRISONER INVOLVED IN MARTINEZ YARYES CASE
WAS MURDERED AUGUST 28, PROBABLY ON ORDERS OF MILITARY COMMANDER
OF REGION. PRESS ACCOUNTS SUGGEST HE WAS KILLED IN A BARROOM
BRAWL BUT FAMILY AND POLITICAL SOURCES HAVE INFORMED EMBASSY THESE
ACCOUNTS UNTRUE. END SUMMARY.

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. DOROTEO GRANDEL, WITNESS IN THE MARTINEZ
YARYES CASE WHO WAS INCARCERATED INCOMMUNICADO FOR MORE THAN 2
YEARS IN A MILITARY HEADQUARTERS (PARAGRAPH 3 REFTTEL), WAS MURDERED
AUGUST 28. PRESS ACCOUNTS, FROM GOVERNMENT SOURCES, CLAIM GRANDEL
WAS SHOT AFTER A FIGHT IN A BAR BUT PRELIMINARY INFORMATION FROM
HIS FAMILY INDICATES STORY IS FABRICATED. THEY TELL US HE WAS
AMBUSHED NEAR HIS HOME IN CAAGAZU AREA OF EASTERN PARAGUAY
AND THAT AUTHORITIES DELIVERED HIS BODY TO FAMILY IN A CLOSED COFFIN,
ORDERING BURIAL IMMEDIATELY. END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. BELIEF IS WIDESPREAD THAT GENERAL OTELLO
CARPINELLI, WHO IMPRISONED GRANDEL IN HIS HEADQUARTERS FROM 1976
TO 1978, ORDERED HIM KILLED BY PAID ASSASSINS. CHURCH COMMITTEE
SOURCES TELL US THAT GRANDEL WAS RELEASED WHEN HE SIGNED
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PAGE 02 ASUNCI 03789 312102Z

STATEMENT SAYING HE GOT 200,000 GUARANIES (\$16,000) FROM AUTHENTIC
RADICAL LIBERAL PRESIDENT DR. MARTINEZ YARYES TO TESTIFY THAT
GENERAL CARPINELLI'S TROOPS BURNED CAMPESINOS' HOUSES.
GRANDEL WAS THEN RELEASED AND WARNED NEVER TO RETURN TO ASUNCION.
GRANDEL CAME TO ASUNCION AND PREPARED ANOTHER STATEMENT AUGUST 10
SAYING HE SIGNED THE VILLARICA DOCUMENT UNDER DURESS. HE PLANNED
TO COME BACK HERE AUGUST 29 TO SIGN BEFORE A NOTARY, GIVING NEW

DOCUMENT LEGAL STATUS, BUT WAS MURDERED PRECEDING DAY. AUTHENTIC
RADICAL LIBERAL PARTY HAS ISSUED PRESS RELEASE CALLING GRANDEL'S
DEATH SUSPICIOUS BUT NOT ACCUSING GENERAL CARPINELLI OF MURDER.
INTERIOR MINISTRY UNDER SECRETARY BESTARD SPECULATED TO THE GERMAN
AMBASSADOR YESTERDAY THAT GRANDEL'S DEATH WAS PROBABLY THE WORK OF
THE MILITARY BUT HE SAID NO ONE COULD TOUCH THE ARMY, SHRUGGING
HELPLESSLY.

WHITE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
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